Message Text

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21-12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DRC-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 SPC-03 AID-20

EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 SCEM-02 INT-08 SCI-06 IO-14

AF-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

PRS-01 ACDA-19 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /216 W ------ 109312

O P 130950Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9615

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL SINGAPORE 4382

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PETROLEUM CUTBACKS - PRESS GUIDANCE

REF: SINGAPORE 4328

1. BOSTON GLOBE CORRESPONDENT CROCKER SNOW FILING STORY TODAY STATING THAT "AS OF YESTERDAY (NOVEMBER 12) FIVE SINGAPORE OIL REFINERIES WERE NOTIFIED THAT THEY COULD NO LONGER SELL PETROLEUM TO US NAVY".EMBASSY WHEN QUERIED FOR VERIFICATION TOLD SNOW THAT IT WAS NOT IN POSITION TO COMMENT. CONFIDENTIAL

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- 2. SNOW'S BREAKING OF STORY ALMOST CERTAIN TO STIMULATE PRESS FLAP HERE IN MORNING AS WIRE SERVICES AND OTHER FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS FOLLOW UP. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO BE IN POSITION TO MAKE CREDIBLE RESPONSE SINCE IT IS WIDELY KNOWN IN SINGAPORE THAT OIL COMPANIES ARE NOT FILLING USN REQUIREMENTS. UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED, WE PLAN TO USE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WHEN ASKED FOR VERIFICATION OF CUTOFF: "CERTAIN OIL COMPANIES HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY ARE UNABLE TO SUPPLY PETROLEUM PRODUCTS UNDER EXISTING DOD CONTRACTS." WE WOULD NOT COMMENT FURTHER.
- 3. THE GOS HAS NOT REPEAT NOT RAISED THIS MATTER WITH US IN ANY FASHION, AND WOULD BE EMBARRASSED AND UNHAPPY IF WE WERE TO INVOLVE THEM PUBLICLY IN SITUATION. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPORTANT IN ANY RESPONSE TO PRESS QUERIES HERE OR ELSEWHERE THAT WE DO NOT STATE OR IMPLY THAT GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE HAS REQUESTED OIL COMPANIES TO STOP SUPPLYING US MILITARY REQUIREMENTS EVEN IF PRESS REPORTS SO ALLEGE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

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Concepts: PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, MILITARY PROCUREMENT, PRESS COMMENTS

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: PETROLEUM CUTBACKS - PRESS GUIDANCE

TAGS: ENRG, SN, US

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005